(2) Peoples Bureau of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya,

(3) High Commission for the United Republic of Tanzania,

(4) Embassy of Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The information, however. is not complete because it does not include the houses rented by the mission for their non-diplomatic staff.

Fertiliser stock

2068. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 463 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1987 and state:

(a) the total stock of fertilisers in the country at the end of 1986; and

(b) the measures being taken by Government to increase the consumption of fertiliser and reduce the stock of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The total stock of fertilisers in the country at the end of 1986 was approximately 27.28 lakh tonnes of nutrients.

(b) The steps taken by the Government in association with the Fertiliser industry, for increasing fertiliser consumption in the country include the following:—

(i) An Intensive Fertiliser Promotion Campaign has been launched in selected districts where consumption potential exists but at present the consumption is low. The number of districts covered under the scheme has been raised from 67 in 1981 to 104 at present.

(ii) Delivery of fertilisers is made largely at Government cost upto Block level all over the country, instead of upto Rail head destinations as hithertofore.

(iii) The distribution margin to the agencies engaged in fertiliser distribution was increased by about 22% with effect from 15.8.1981. This was further increased with effect from 20.5.1983.

(iv) The quantum of short-term loans to the States for purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs, including fertiliser, which was Rs. 136 crores in 1979-80 was Rs. 260 crores in 1986-87.

(v) In order to ensure easy availability of fertilisers near the consumption centres. the number of sale points was increased from 1.11 lakh on 30.11.1981 to 1.56 lakh.

(vi) The Govt. of India have advised the State Governments to nominate one of the fertiliser suppliers as 'lead supplier' for each district and also one at the State level. This has been done with a view to achieving greater involvement of the industry and increased consumption of fertilisers, particularly in the rainfed areas.

Affairs of Mother Dairy

2069. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Drivers-cum-Salesmen of the Mother Dairy, Delhi have not been put on duty as they are office bearers of the Workers Union which is in league with the Management; and

(b) whether Government propose to revamp the top Management of Mother Dairy and its Management Committee and put it undercharge of Ministry's staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) The Management of Mother Dairy, Delhi, is not in league with any Union. It is not correct that Driver-cum-Salesmen who are office bearers of the Union are not put on duty.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

Research and development work for new varieties of sugarcane

2070. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government in the field of R&D for evolving new sugarcane varieties for the various regions of the country depending on their agroclimatic conditions and what are the results achieved so far in this regard; and

(b) whether Government have considered the question of formulating a long-term sugar policy at least for five years for excise rebate, cess pricing and allied problems; if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Improved sugarcane varieties suited to different agroclimatic regions have been released for cultivation. Details of the popular varieties in different states are given in the attached Statement. (See below).

(b) Government has already announced the long term sugar policy for the 7th Plan period on 12.12.1986. In that the statutory minimum price of sugarcane payable by sugar factories is being announced a year in advance of the crushing season. The price of levy sugar is, however, determined on the basis of the statutory minimum sugarcane price and the cost schedules recommended by the expert bodies.

The Government does not envisage any change in the rate of sugar cess. Policies relating to grant of a excise rebate to sugar factories as well as the pricing of sugar and sugarcane are considered from year to year taking into consideration the prevailing situation.

Statement

High-yielding varieties of sugarcane in different States

Sl. No.	Name of variety	Yield-ha (in tons)	Area to which recommended	Significant Economic attributes	Maturity
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	CO-62175	143—190	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra Orissa.	Thick, high yielding, good quality	late
2	COA-7701	94	Andhra Pradesh	Free from smut and rust	Early
3	COR-8001	155	Andhra Pradesh	Resistant to red-rot disease	Early
4	CO-1148	78—95	Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal.	Resistant to red-rot, good quality Jaggery.	Mid-season